



# CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

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December 4, 2013

Erik Vink  
Delta Protection Commission  
2101 Stone Blvd., Suite 210  
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Dear Mr. Vink:

On behalf of the Capital Campus Public History Program at Sacramento State University, I am writing to offer my enthusiastic support for the proposed Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area (NHA).

The Delta landscape is exceptionally rich in history. It has been the site for innovations in reclamation and agriculture, for the settlement of diverse communities, and for recreation and renewal. This has been very well captured in the Delta Protection Commission's *Feasibility Study for a Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta National Heritage Area*, which identified five compelling historical themes for the Delta NHA. As public historians committed to expanding public knowledge about this region's cultural heritage, we view the NHA as a valuable tool to increase public education and awareness of the Delta's history.

We were delighted to have an on-campus presentation last month on the Delta NHA from the professional staff of the Delta Protection Commission and the Delta Conservancy to current graduate students and program alumni. In coming semesters, graduate students will be working on Delta-related projects in my Oral History course and in the Public History Research course. We are also discussing ways to fund student internships for projects such as historic resource inventorying and heritage tourism planning and I am quite hopeful that these may generate useful NHA-related thesis projects.

My colleagues and I are eagerly following developments with regard to the Delta NHA and look forward to continuing our collaborations with DPC staff. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Patrick Ettinger  
Director, Capital Campus Public History Program  
Professor of History

cc: Campbell Ingram, Delta Conservancy